

**CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 9, 2008  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

The meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority was called to order on July 9, 2008 at 10:00AM at the Judicial Council Conference Center in San Francisco, CA.

Members Present: Quentin Kopp, Chairman  
Fran Florez  
David Crane  
Rod Diridon, Sr.  
Curt Pringle  
Lynn Schenk  
Kirk Lindsey  
Thomas Umberg

Members Absent: TJ Stapleton

**Opening Comments**

Chairman Kopp welcomed Board Members to today's meeting.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for the following Authority Meetings:**

Chairman Kopp presented the minutes from the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting for approval. Member Schenk moved to approve, Member Florez seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Authority Members' Meetings for Compensation**

Chairman Kopp presented the list of meetings for compensation for approval. Member Florez moved to approve the list of meetings for compensation seconded by Member Lindsey. The motion carried 8-0.

**Member Reports**

Chairman Kopp reported he had devoted the previous 3 weeks to AB3034 which was approved by the Senate Transportation Committee on July 1, 2008 with amendments. AB3034 was referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee as a bill with fiscal affects and was scheduled for hearing on July 10, 2008.

Chairman Kopp also reported the project continues to gather support from airports statewide such as the Sacramento Airport and the San Diego Airport. Chairman Kopp stated support from air quality districts throughout the state were also beginning to be accrued.

Chairman Kopp reported a Public Comment hearing had taken place the day prior regarding the Final Program EIR/EIS and roughly 2 hours of testimony was

heard. Executive Director Morshed would be responding to the comments during Agenda Item 7.

Member Diridon reported he has been elected Chair of the APTA Intercity Rail Committee.

### **Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Morshed reported that:

- The California Legislature had not yet approved a budget. Funds from the last fiscal year were being used in the interim but most activities would be suspended until the budget was approved.
- He and Program Manager Tony Daniels met with Senior Executives of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in Washington, D.C. to discuss the process over the next few years and that he was pleased with the FRA's response and willingness to work with the project.
- He met with Executive Directors of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Currently parties are in the process of putting together a cooperative agreement defining what improvements can be made in the corridor between Los Angeles, Riverside and San Diego.
- A few months earlier the board authorized an agreement to commission a study on the feasibility of using renewable energy for a power source for the HST. He had the draft report and it shows renewable energy is quite feasible and relatively inexpensive. The report will be issued publicly within the next couple of weeks and it will be included on the agenda in September to discuss it and possibly draft a policy in using zero emission energy for powering the train.

### **Summary and Brief Response to Comment received on the Final Program EIR/EIS**

Executive Director Morshed and Deputy Attorney General Christine Sproul presented a staff report on the Final Bay Area to Central Valley HST System Program EIR/EIS and briefly summarized and responded to Public Comment on the Final Program EIR/EIS which was received on day one of this meeting.

This staff report is available upon request.

### **Consideration of Final Program EIR/EIS and Decision on Alignment and Station Locations for Bay Area to Central Valley portion of Proposed California HST System**

Deputy Attorney General Sproul outlined the decision documents to the board for the certification of the Final Bay Area-Central Valley Program EIR/EIS.

Deputy Attorney General Sproul stated Executive Director Morshed and his designees are considered custodian of the Authority's documents that constitute the administrative record for the Final Program EIR/EIS and the location of all the documents in the administrative record of these proceedings will be at the Authority office in Sacramento.

Member Pringle moved to certify the Final Program EIR/EIS, Member Schenk seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Delegation of Authority to Executive Director, Administrative Record Preparation Contract**

Chairman Kopp presented a motion for the Board to delegate authority to the Executive Director for preparation of the administrative record contract for the Final Bay Area to Central Valley Program EIR/EIS. Member Lindsey moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion passed 8-0.

**Draft Request for Qualification for the Altamont Corridor**

Deputy Director Dan Leavitt presented a draft Request for Qualifications for the Altamont Corridor for environmental/engineering services for board review and approval for a separate and independent regional rail project in the Altamont Corridor working with regional partners.

**Jim Bigelow**

**Redwood City and San Mateo Chambers of Commerce**

Mr. Bigelow stated many Chamber of Commerce employees lived in Stockton and Modesto and Tracy and the 205 and the 580 corridors are difficult commuter corridors. Mr. Bigelow stated during the MTC regional rail plan, it was suggested the Altamont Corridor and the Altamont Express Service be similar to the Caltrain Bullet Service which has been very successful. Mr. Bigelow stated he strongly supported the Board working with other regional partners in the Altamont Corridor and recommended Caltrain also be included. Mr. Bigelow also stated the Redwood City and San Mateo Chambers of Commerce supported agenda items 10, 11 and 12.

**Robert Allen**

Mr. Allen stated he believed the solution to commuter problems from South Bay and the East Bay is to merge the Caltrain counties with the BART counties so that there is a single rapid transit entity of 5 counties and approximately 6 million people. Mr. Allen asked that "BART and other" be added to the agenda item proposal to include the possibility of BART. He believes BART would be

cheaper, it would serve many more people and provide a better commuter service.

Chairman Kopp presented the motion to approve the staff recommendation, Member Lindsey moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Draft Request for Qualification for the San Francisco to San Jose Corridor**

Deputy Director Dan Leavitt presented a draft Request for Qualifications for the San Francisco to San Jose Corridor for environmental/engineering services for board review and approval.

Chairman Kopp presented the motion to approve the staff recommendation, Member Lindsey moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Draft Request for Qualification for the San Jose to Merced Corridor**

Deputy Director Dan Leavitt presented a draft Request for Qualifications for the San Jose to Merced for environmental/engineering services for board review and approval.

Chairman Kopp presented the motion to approve the staff recommendation, Member Lindsey moved to approve, Member Diridon seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Approval of Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)**

Deputy Director Dan Leavitt requested the board's authorization to enter into an MOU with SANDAG and SCAG and other potential agencies in regards to working cooperatively for the planning and implementation of HST in the Los Angeles to San Diego area via the Riverside corridor.

Member Schenk moved to approve the staff recommendation, Member Lindsey seconded. The motion carried 8-0.

**Public Comment**

An opportunity for public comment was provided during each public agenda item.

An opportunity for public comment was provided after all agenda items were heard.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:45am**